

CLAIM LISTING

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for the simultaneous quantitative and qualitative determination of individual phospholipids in a phospholipid mixture, wherein said phospholipid mixture comprises a neutral lipid, said method comprising:
dissolving said phospholipid mixture in at least one extraction solvent;
applying said at least one extraction solvent having said phospholipid mixture dissolved therein to a thin layer chromatography (TLC) plate;
placing said TLC plate having said phospholipid mixture applied thereto into an elution solvent mixture comprising chloroform, methanol, acetic acid, and an aqueous solution of potassium chloride; and
allowing said phospholipid mixture to migrate up said TLC plate in one direction until said individual phospholipids are resolved into discrete, detectable spots such that all said individual phospholipids present in said phospholipid mixture can be individually detected and said discrete detectable spots are separately quantifiable.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said individual phospholipids are selected from the group consisting of phosphatidylcholine, phosphatidylethanolamine, phosphatidylinositol, phosphatidic acid, phosphatidylserine, and sphingomyelin.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said at least one extraction solvent is selected from the group consisting of chloroform, methanol, and water.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said at least one extraction solvent comprises chloroform and methanol.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said at least one extraction solvent comprises two parts chloroform and one part methanol.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said TLC plate is coated with a silica gel.
7. (Cancelled) The method of claim 1 wherein said elution solvent mixture comprises chloroform, methanol, acetic acid, and an aqueous solution of potassium chloride.
8. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[7]] 1 wherein said aqueous solution of potassium chloride consists essentially of water and 2.5% potassium chloride.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[7]] 1 wherein said elution solvent mixture consists essentially of 35 parts chloroform, 10 parts methanol, 9.8 parts acetic acid and 1.2 parts aqueous solution of potassium chloride.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising detecting said individual phospholipids using an ultraviolet detection system.
11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein said ultraviolet detection system further comprises primulin.
12. (Currently Amended) A method for the quantitative determination of individual phospholipids in a phospholipid mixture, wherein said phospholipid mixture comprises a neutral lipid, said method comprising:
 - dissolving said phospholipid mixture in at least one extraction solvent;
 - applying said at least one extraction solvent having said phospholipid mixture dissolved therein to a thin layer chromatography (TLC) plate;
 - placing said TLC plate having said phospholipid mixture applied thereto into an elution solvent mixture comprising chloroform, methanol, acetic acid, and an aqueous solution of potassium chloride; and
 - allowing said phospholipid mixture to migrate up said TLC plate in one direction until said individual phospholipids are resolved into discrete, detectable spots such that all said individual phospholipids present in said phospholipid mixture can be individually detected and said discrete detectable spots are separately quantifiable.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said individual phospholipids are selected from the group consisting of phosphatidylcholine, phosphatidylethanolamine, phosphatidylinositol, phosphatidic acid, phosphatidylserine, and sphingomyelin.
14. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said at least one extraction solvent is selected from the group consisting of chloroform, methanol, and water.
15. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said at least one extraction solvent comprises chloroform and methanol.
16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein said at least one extraction solvent comprises two parts chloroform and one part methanol.
17. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said TLC plate is coated with a silica gel.

18. (Previously canceled) The method of claim 12 wherein said elution solvent mixture comprises chloroform, methanol, acetic acid, and an aqueous solution of potassium chloride.
19. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[18]]~~ 12 wherein said aqueous solution of potassium chloride consists essentially of water and 2.5% potassium chloride.
20. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[18]]~~ 12 wherein said elution solvent mixture ~~consists essentially of~~ comprises 35 parts chloroform, 10 parts methanol, 9.8 parts acetic acid and 1.2 parts aqueous solution of potassium chloride.
21. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising detecting said individual phospholipids using an ultraviolet detection system.
22. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said ultraviolet detection system further comprises primulin.
23. (Previously canceled) The method of claim 1, wherein said discrete detectable spots are separately quantifiable.
24. (Previously canceled) The method of claim 21, wherein said discrete detectable spots are separately quantifiable.
25. (New) A method for the simultaneous quantitative and qualitative determination of individual phospholipids in a phospholipid mixture, said method comprising:
 - dissolving said phospholipid mixture in at least one extraction solvent;
 - applying said at least one extraction solvent having said phospholipid mixture dissolved therein to a thin layer chromatography (TLC) plate;
 - placing said TLC plate having said phospholipid mixture applied thereto into an elution solvent mixture comprising chloroform, methanol, acetic acid, and an aqueous solution of potassium chloride; and
 - allowing said phospholipid mixture to migrate up said TLC plate in one direction until said individual phospholipids are resolved into discrete, detectable spots such that all said individual phospholipids present in said phospholipid mixture can be individually detected and said discrete detectable spots are separately quantifiable.
26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein said phospholipid mixture includes a neutral lipid.
27. (New) An elution solvent mixture for use in the qualitative and/or quantitative determination of individual phospholipids in a phospholipid mixture using thin layer

chromatography methodology, comprising chloroform, methanol, acetic acid, and an aqueous solution of potassium chloride.

28. (New) The elution solvent mixture of claim 27, comprising 35 parts chloroform, 10 parts methanol, 9.8 parts acetic acid and 1.2 parts aqueous solution of potassium chloride.